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INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RHMFISS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIGA 000591

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/23/2018

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [KNNP](#) [LG](#)

SUBJECT: LATVIA: NATIONAL SECURITY AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN
THE 21ST CENTURY DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: SECSTATE 101233

Classified By: Ambassador Charles W. Larson Jr. for reason 1.4(b)

[1](#)1. (C) Poleconoff delivered reftel demarche to Raimonds Oskalns, the MFA's Arms Proliferation Department Director. Oskalns agreed that having a stockpile of nuclear weapons and a strategic nuclear plan can act as a deterrent to aggression, especially in the context of Russia's actions in Venezuela and Georgia. Oskalns was curious about our timing in releasing this report, as these dates are often in connection with some other message or action.

[1](#)2. (U) There has been no media coverage of this report in Latvia to date.

LARSON